(c) and (d) No Separate nodal stockyards are being set up by SAIL. However, the stockyards at Kalamboli (Bombay), Madras, Faridabad, Dhankuni (Calcutta), Panki (Kanpur) are being modernised and expanded to handle larger volume and are intended to serve as nodal stockyards to take care of future requirements if necessary.

Modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant

669. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Secretary level Committee headed by Cabinet Secretary was set up to inquire into manipulated cost hike, doubl e the approved cost in Durgapur Steel Modernisation Scheme from 1360 crores to 2667 crores;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Committee at different stages has clearly mentioned about the deliberate and manipulated cost hike by the then Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the SAIL; if so, the details in this regard ; and

(c) whether Government propose to file an F.I.R. against the authorities responsible for the cost hike in connivance with foreign agencies as well as Indian private sector companies, like BTS ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

National Housing Policy

670. SHRI P. UPENDRA :
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER :
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised the draft of the National Housing Policy;

(b) whether the draft proposes big role for the private sector in house building and real estate activities in Metropolitan-cities ;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard ; and

(d) whether any schemes have been formulated in pursuance thereof for implementation under the Eighth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The revised draft National Housing Policy is under finalisation and likely to be placed before the Parliament shortly.

(b) to (d) The revised Draft National Housing Policy envisages encouraging involvement of licensed private developers in land development, construction and infrastructure provision with adequate legal safeguards, for consumers metropolitan and other cities.

After the draft NHP is finally approved the State Governments will 'work out modalities and evolve detailed guidelines in that regard.

National Commission on Urbanisation

671. SHRI R.T. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the aims and objectives in setting up the National Commission on Urbanisation ;

(b) the details of the recommendations made by the Commission ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the recommendations made by the Commission have not been implemented ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to implement the recommendations and by when these are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The National Commission on Urbanisation was constituted to the state of urbanisation the country, identify priority action areas and formulate guidelines for action plan for managing the rapid urbanisation. The Commission came up with specific suggestions on a broad range of policy interventions necessary to bring about more efficient Urban settlement management which could generate rapid economic growth with equity and social justice. The following are the major recommendations :

1. Consolidating, strengthening and expanding the economic and physical base of the 329 identified urban centres falling into 49 Spatial Priority Urbanisation Regions.

2. Increasing the current share of 4% to 8% for the urban sector in the total Plan allocation.